

rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Mayhead and further in view of Nakamura. Claims 13 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Mayhead in view of Nguyen. Applicant respectfully submits the following arguments in traversal of the prior art rejections.

Applicant's invention relates to a distributed data system including multiple servers and clients. In an exemplary embodiment, in the event of database update to a first server through a client data process, the database of a second server also becomes updated through activation of a replication signal and update of the database of the second server. This allows the servers to continue operating while maintaining consistency in the data between servers.

The cited art of Mayhead, Makinen, Nakamura and Nguyen are set forth at pages 8-9 of the Amendment filed July 9, 2004. Applicant refers the Examiner to these descriptions. Further to these descriptions, Applicant emphasizes that Mayhead describes a distributed data system. The replication manager operates in failure recovery and management of nodes entering and leaving the system. See col. 2, lines 29-51. The replication manager also tracks the replicas of components such as the checker or the logger components, rather than individual database items. The database content management is performed by a signature checker. In particular, upon a client request to write data to a first file store, a signature is computed for the data to be written. The data is transmitted along with the signature to a backup store (of the same file store) and the checker. The backup stores the new data. The checker stores subsequently stores the new signature and a multicast command is sent to indicate that data is updated and the first file store written. Col. 12, lines 40-67.

The Examiner maintains that Mayhead teaches all features of claim 1. Claim 1 describes a replication trigger generator generating a trigger based on updating of a database, and updating the database of another one of the servers based on the replication trigger. The Examiner contends that the replication manager corresponds to the claimed trigger generator. The Examiner is attempting to make a rejection based on the appearance of any “replication” element without due regard to the remaining claim recitations for that element. In particular, the claimed replication element generates a trigger based on updating of a database. By contrast, the replication manager of Mayhead relates to management of operational software components (e.g. a checker or a logger) and management of the system as such components (in nodes) as they enter and exit the system. Therefore, the Examiner’s reliance on the mere disclosure of the replication manager, without due regard to its operations with other system elements, renders the anticipation rejection of claim 1 unsupportable.

In the response to the arguments section, the Examiner expresses confusion as to why prior submitted arguments were directed to a “broadcast” feature for the intra-link system of Mayhead. Applicant submits the following two points of clarification. First, the discussion of the broadcast, or multicast, was to emphasize that any data updating occurring in Mayhead was not necessarily in response to a replication trigger signal caused from a database update. Col. 6, lines 25-45 of Mayhead, reproduced at page 13 of the Detailed Action, indicates that a check (of data) is provided on an **intra-server multicast** basis. In view of a multicast (or broadcast), the update does not necessarily implicate a trigger signal generation. In other words, an alternative form of update can occur. Second, as discussed above, the multicast is of the **intra-server** form,

which implies single server communications. By contrast, claim 1 recites updating of information from one server to another.

In further reply to the Examiner's rebuttal, the Examiner contends that Mayhead includes storage of data from an external source. Detailed Action at page 12. Assuming *arguendo* that this is the case, there is no requirement that the data must come from a different server which is what is described by claim 1. The external source data can simply be supplied through a user input and not from another server. In this regard, the Examiner's reliance on the general storage disk controller is insufficient to make up the deficiencies discussed above regarding server to server transfer of information.

As an additional point, Applicant submits that the trigger signal is generated as a result of updating of a database, such as upon a writing (updating) of the database, and updating of database information from one server to another. To the extent Mayhead also teaches maintenance of database consistency, the transfer occurs from a write element to first a back up and then the primary intended target. The order of the writing and the transfer appears to be opposite of that claimed because the triggering features differ. Therefore claim 1 is patentable for all the above reasons. Claim 7 is patentable for analogous reasons, and the remaining claims are patentable based on their dependencies. Applicant submits that none of the secondary references make up for the deficiencies of Mayhead.

With further regard to claim 19, this claim describes updating of the database occurs prior to generation of the trigger. The Examiner cites cols. 7-8 of Mayhead to teach this feature. However, the cited portion at col. 7 merely describes software component replication, not data replication from server to server. The cited portion at col. 8 teaches generation of a signature for

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comparison prior to writing of data, which (at best) is the opposite of the order of operations of claim 19. Therefore, claim 19 is patentable for this additional reason.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

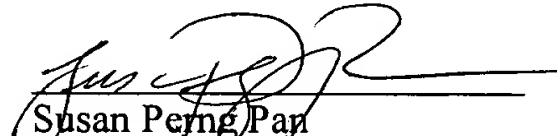
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